

# RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

## Seeding Success for Aboriginal Students

**Professor Rhonda Craven, Associate Professor Geoff Munns and Dr Alexander Yeung from the Centre for Educational Research, along with Dr Patrick Cavanagh from the Australian Catholic University and partner investigators Professor John Lester and Dr Brian Davies from the NSW Department of Education and Training are exploring how to promote the best possible conditions for academic and life success for Aboriginal school students through a three year ARC Linkage Grant.**

'Aboriginal students remain educationally disadvantaged despite previous attempts to intervene.' says Professor Rhonda Craven. 'Enhancing quality teaching, schooling, and psychosocial drivers of potential are advocated by Aboriginal people as vital. Whilst considerable advances in research with non-Aboriginal students have identified the drivers that influence educational outcomes, the impact and implications of these on Indigenous students' educational outcomes remain unknown. Such information is critical to inform education practice. This investigation seeks to extend recent advances to Aboriginal students by identifying new research-based solutions that can be shown to seed success in educational and life outcomes.'

In collaboration with the NSW Department of Education and Training, and participating primary schools, the research team will use surveys, psychometric and skill-level tests and in-depth classroom observation data to assess regional and urban schools for teaching quality, academic performance and learning environment, and seek to gauge perceptions and attitudes about these measures from students and teachers.



This project will contribute to strengthening Australia's social and economic wellbeing by adding new knowledge of Aboriginal education issues and identifying potential practical strategies to initiate success, thus breaking the cycle of underachievement by generating new solutions to improve the educational outcomes and life potential of Indigenous students throughout Australia.

**Project Title:** Seeding Success and Research-Based Intervention for Aboriginal Students: Impact of quality teaching, effective schools, and psychosocial drivers on educational outcomes  
**Funding has been set at:** \$305,911 ARC contribution, \$819,716 Partner contribution  
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